

## **Proposal 1**

### **Existing regulation: State-wide - Definitions**

§ \_\_.25 Subsistence taking of fish, wildlife, and shellfish: general regulations.

(a) Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to all regulations contained in this part:

Furbearer means a beaver, coyote, arctic fox, red fox, lynx, marten, mink, weasel, muskrat, river (land) otter, red squirrel, flying squirrel, ground squirrel, marmot, wolf, or wolverine.

[Brown and Black Bear are not presently included within the definition of a furbearer.]

### **Proposed regulation: State-wide - Definitions**

§ \_\_.25 Subsistence taking of fish, wildlife, and shellfish: general regulations.

(a) Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to all regulations contained in this part:

Furbearer means a beaver, **black bear, brown bear**, coyote, arctic fox, red fox, lynx, marten, mink, weasel, muskrat, river (land) otter, red squirrel, flying squirrel, ground squirrel, marmot, wolf, or wolverine.

**Reason for changing the regulation:** To allow subsistence hunters to use bear hides and other parts. There are limited uses for bear parts and they could be wasted. Grizzly could be used for arts and crafts and sold.

**Effect of change on fish and wildlife populations:** There may be a slight increase in harvest but I don't believe it will be excessive because bear parts are not extremely valuable.

**Effect of proposed change on subsistence users:** This will benefit subsistence users by allowing them to fully use a resource and supplement their subsistence lifestyle with a resource that does not get used.

**Additional information:** Bear populations in most of Alaska are at very high levels. Three black bears/year is common [harvest limit] throughout the State. There are concerns about poaching increasing but I've consulted Ted Pappas of the Western Canadian Raw Fur Auction in Canada, where sale of bear parts has been legal for a long time, and he said that harvests have not increased significantly. Mr. Pappas also reported that the average price paid for a black bear hide is about \$ 60.00.

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